

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-20 remain pending in the application including independent claims 1, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 17. Claim 2 has been cancelled.

The amendments to the specification are not related to any objections or rejections set forth in the subject official action. The specification has solely been revised to correct a numbering error and to provide consistent terminology.

The amendments to claims 14, 16, and 18 are not related to any objections or rejections set forth in the subject official action. Claims 14, 16, and 18 have solely been amended to provide proper antecedent basis and to correct typographical errors.

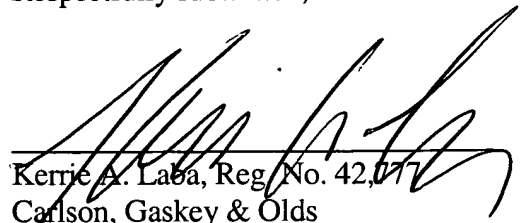
Claims 11-20 are allowed. Claims 2-10 are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 2, 8, 9, and 10 depend directly from claim 1. Claim 2 has been incorporated into claim 1 and claims 8-10 have been rewritten in independent form. Thus, claims 1 and 3-10 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kobayashi et al. This rejection is moot in light of the amendments discussed above.

Applicant asserts that all claims are now in condition for allowance and requests an indication of such. A check for \$600 is enclosed to cover the fee for three additional independent claims. Applicant believes no additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner

is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

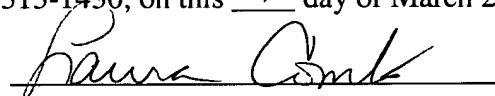


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Dated: March 1, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAIL

I hereby certify that the enclosed Response is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 1 day of March 2005.



Laura Combs